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Viewing cable 09CARACAS1132, GBRV POLICE TARGET USAID/OTI-FUNDED DEMOCRACY

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#09CARACAS1132**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
09CARACAS1132	2009-08-27 23:10	2011-08-30 01:44	SECRET	Embassy Caracas

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.semana.com/mundo/wikileaks-venezuela-embajada-eeuu-solicito-dinero-para-ayudar-opositores/159398-3.aspx>

VZCZCXRO2906
OO RUEHAG RUEHROV RUEHSL
DE RUEHCV #1132/01 2392310
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
O 272310Z AUG 09
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3629
INFO RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE
RUEHWH/WESTERN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS DIPL POSTS

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 CARACAS 001132

SIPDIS

FOR WHA, L, CA AND USAID/OTI

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/11/2018

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [CASC](#) [VE](#)

SUBJECT: GBRV POLICE TARGET USAID/OTI-FUNDED DEMOCRACY PROGRAMS

CARACAS 00001132 001.2 OF 002

Classified By: Political Counselor Robin D. Meyer for
Reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

¶1. (S) Summary: Action request in para 7 below. On August 26, police officers from the Scientific, Penal and Criminal Investigations Corps (CICPC) presented citations requiring XXXXXXXXXXXX to appear on September 1 before the police. XXXXXXXXXXXX is a contractor for USAID/OTI in Caracas. XXXXXXXXXXXX is in Venezuela on an official U.S. passport. He entered Venezuela with an O-1 visa, which was renewed in February 2008 for one year. Upon its expiration, Embassy Caracas submitted a diplomatic note requesting a second renewal. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs retained the passport without notifying Embassy Caracas of its intention to either approve or deny the request until August 26, 2009, when Embassy Caracas retrieved the passport from the MFA. DAI, Inc. has retained a local lawyer to represent XXXXXXXXXXXX before the CICPC Directorate. On August 28, they will submit a request for a one-week extension. End Summary.

CICPC Targets DAI Contractors

¶2. (C) On August 27, XXXXXXXXXXXX met with DCM Caulfield and other EmbOffs. According to XXXXXXXXXXXX, on August 26, police officers from the Scientific, Penal and Criminal Investigations Corps (CICPC) presented citations requiring Amcits XXXXXXXXXXXX to appear on September 1 before the CICPC Directorate for the Investigation of Crimes Against the National Wealth. DAI local staff informed CICPC that XXXXXXXXXXXX had departed Venezuela in 2008. According to the CICPC officers, who behaved in a polite and professional manner, the investigation was initiated by the Superintendent of Banks (SUDEBANS) following the detection of unusually large cash transfers in 2007 and ¶2008. this coincides with the December 2007 Constitutional Referendum and national state and local elections in 2008. The focus of the investigation will be the origin of these Funds. The officers, who warned that the investigation would be "long and deep," also said XXXXXXXXXXXX will be investigated by the tax authority SENIAT and the immigration authority ONIDEX, to verify XXXXXXXXXXXX immigration status.

¶3. (C) XXXXXXXXXXXX is a dual U.S.-Argentine national. He entered Venezuela with an O-1 visa, which expired in February ¶2008. It was renewed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Caracas in March 2008. That visa expired March 13, 2009. Embassy Caracas submitted a diplomatic note requesting a second renewal of the visa in March 2009. It was retained by the MFA, without any notification of its intent to approve or deny the request, until August 26, when post retrieved the passport from the MFA. XXXXXXXXXXXX has no other form of Venezuelan identification. He retains his regular U.S. and Argentine passports. Post will email scanned copies of the citation, diplomatic notes, passport, and visa to WHA/AND.

Why DAI?

¶5. XXXXXXXXXXXX told DCM Caulfield that he believed the CICPC's dual objective is to obtain information regarding DAI's grantees and to cut off their funding. XXXXXXXXXXXX said that "the streets are hot," referring to growing protests against Chavez's efforts to consolidate power, and "all these people (organizing the protests) are our grantees." XXXXXXXXXXXX has been leading non-partisan training and grant programs since 2004 for XXXXXXXXXXXX in Venezuela.

¶6. (S) XXXXXXXXXXXX told DCM Caulfield that he does not want to abandon his team and prefers to stay in country. He has retained a lawyer to represent him before CICPC. They plan to submit a request for an extension-of-time to postpone the hearing from September 1 to the following week.

Action Request

¶7. (S) Post requests urgent guidance on the following issues:

(1) whether XXXXXXXXXXXX enjoys any immunity based on his official passport and visa, or whether he should appear before CICPC or any other Venezuelan authorities;

(2) whether XXXXXXXXXXXX should disclose any information and if so, what;

(3) what XXXXXXXXXXXX should do about its 50 boxes of files, some of which contain the names of persons directing grantees; and

(4) if XXXXXXXXXXXX is considered to be working on behalf of the USG, should he remain in-country or to try to depart Venezuela before the September 1 police interview.
DUDDY